Serial No.: 08/971,903 Docket No.: 826.1431/GPJ

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please DELETE the present Abstract and INSERT the following new Abstract therefor:

-- Abstract of the Disclosure

A user information general management unit for generally managing user registration information and using status information transmitted from a user side of a computer-related product is provided at a system manager side, for example, a user registration centre. A user registration/reference unit for notifying the user information general management unit of the user registration information and the using status information at a request from the user, and for requesting new information provided from a vendor side about a computer-related product is provided on a user side. With this configuration, a user registration operation can be simple on the user side, the time and the cost required in checking the using status on the vendor side can be reduced, and an appropriate service for a user can be realized.--